

DISCOVER

2023 Edition

MAGAZINE

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IN EFFINGHAM COUNTY

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Effingham County enthusiastic about high school sports

By Alex Wallner

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ON THE COVER: In this 2016 photo, James Anania, of Los Angeles, stands at The Cross at the Crossroads in Effingham during a cross-country trek to spread a message of unity. Effingham Daily News file photo.

Community Information

POSTAL DELIVERY

The Effingham Post Office provides city, rural and post office box mail delivery. The office is located at 210 North Third St. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The lobby is open 24 hours and 7 days a week. For further information, call 217-342-6016.

UTILITIES

Effingham Water and Sewer Department
201 East Jefferson
To set up service call
217-342-2366
M-F 7:30am - 4:30pm

EJ Water Cooperative
108 S Main St, Dieterich
217-925-5566

Lake Sara Area Water Cooperative
114 W Washington Ave,
Effingham
217-342-9658

Effingham Water Authority
307 N Third St, Effingham
217-347-7333

GAS AND ELECTRIC

Ameren CIPS: 1-800-755-5000
Norris Electric Cooperative:
618-783-8765

T.V., INTERNET AND PHONE

Mediacom Communications:
855-633-4226

Consolidated Communications:
1-844-968-7224

Wabash Communications:
618-665-3311

INTERNET

American Fiber Network Inc:
217-367-1578

Illinois Fiber Connect:
217-925-4321

Frontier Communications Corporation
801 W Jackson St, Altamont
618-483-6191

GARBAGE

Sanitation Service Inc.:
217-342-3713
1713 S Willow St., P.O. Box 703,
Effingham
Doty Sanitation Services:
618-487-5794
2021 E. 000 North Rd. •
Beecher City 62414

Countryside Disposal:
217-821-1207
2329 E. 3250 Ave. Beecher
City 62414
Dumpster only service—
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WASTE COLLECTION, DISPOSAL & RECYCLING

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1-447-207-1001

MILITARY

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Station
1001 Ave of Mid America,
Ste. C • Effingham
217-347-5108

Effingham Army National
Guard Recruiting
1206 W. Temple Ave,
Effingham
217-342-6025

U.S. Navy Enlisted Recruiting
1001 Avenue of Mid-America
#4, Effingham
217-342-6411

U.S. Air Force Recruiting
Effingham
217-343-3455

U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting
1001 Avenue of Mid-America,
Effingham
217-347-2995

TRANSPORTATION

Amtrak: 1-800-872-7245
401 W National Ave., Effingham
Bales Unlimited: 217-868-9998
or 1-800-225-3708
9845 E 1900th Ave., Shumway
bales08.com

Bird's Got It LLC: 217-240-2624
900 W. Wabash Ave., Effingham
Birds-got-it.business.site

Central Illinois Public Transit:
1-855-755-2478, 217-342-2193
1805 S. Banker Street,
Effingham IL
Cefseoc.org

Jeff's Crossroads Taxi &
Delivery, LLC: 217-342-7433
508 W. Kentucky Ave., Effingham

Effingham County Memorial
Airport: 217-536-5312
14449 E 1100th Ave., Effingham

Greyhound Bus Stop:
217-342-4075
2500 N 3rd St • Effingham
Inside Pilot Gas Station/
McDonald's

Livin' It Up Transportation:
217-821-9083
10512 N. 450th St., Altamont

Effingham Taxi: 217-342-3119
506 South St., Effingham
effinghamtaxi.com

Orange Ride Effingham
Branch: 217-258-8294
Orangeisthenewride.com

LICENSES

Automobiles: Secretary of
State's Office • 1901 S. Fourth
St., Ste. 2, Effingham • 217-
347-7728

Marriage: Effingham County
Clerk's Office • 2nd floor
Effingham County Office
Building • 101 N Fourth St,
Effingham • 217-342-6535

GOLF CART PERMITS

Effingham Police Department:
217-347-0774 (ask for Records)
email: epd@effinghamil.com

LIBRARY

Effingham Public Library:
217-342-2464
200 N Third St, Effingham
effinghamlibrary.org

SCOUTING

The Boy Scouts of America:
217-429-2326
stlbsa.org

The Girl Scouts of Southern IL:
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1-800-345-6858.
Gsofsl.org

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Human Services

EFFINGHAM COUNTY FISH HUMAN SERVICES

708 S. Linden St. • 217-342-2200 • Follow us on Facebook.
FISH is a charitable, not for profit organization, consisting of an interfaith all-volunteer group of area residents, which is committed to elevating the quality of life for those among us in need in Effingham County. FISH derives its name from the early secret symbol for Christianity, and was started locally on June 1, 1970.

THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

901 W Virginia Ave • 217-342-9237 • effcohealth.org
Effingham County Health Department provides home health services, maternal and child health services, clinical services and environmental and community health programs.

HEARTLAND HUMAN SERVICES

1200 N Fourth St • 217-347-7179 • heartlandhs.org
Heartland Human Services is the result of the efforts of a caring and concerned community. In the 1960's, community leaders realized counseling services for mental illness and addictions treatment were lacking in rural areas. The State of Illinois made a commitment to help communities improve their quality of life by establishing a tax levy for the support of mental health and addictions treatment. Effingham County leaders and voters were far-sighted enough to pass such a levy tax by referendum in 1969, thus providing funding for community-based behavioral healthcare services. In 1970, a non-profit corporation was established under the directorship of a local board of directors to oversee the development of a full continuum of behavioral healthcare services. They named this new entity the Effingham County Mental Health Center. Over the years, Heartland Human Services has changed names and grown from its simple beginnings to provide a wide array of behavioral healthcare services. Today, local county funding comprises less than 5% of Heartland Human Services total funding. The agency contracts with the State of Illinois, business corporations, third party insurers and private individuals as a means of underwriting the costs of services. The organization provides mental health, addiction treatment, family counseling and older adult programs.

ROAD HOME PROGRAM

1200 N. Fourth St., Effingham • 217-347-2597
Roadhomeprogram.org
The Road Home Program provides mental health care and wellness to veterans of all eras, service members and their families at no cost and regardless of discharge status.

ENDURING FREEDOM MINISTRIES

Free Grocery Store, Soup Kitchen, Laundromat & Barbershop.
304 South West St., Shumway • 217-240-0059

CASA OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY

1901 S. 4th St., Suite 211, Effingham • 217-342-2666
CASA of Effingham County is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing highly trained volunteers to advocate for the best interests of children that have experienced abuse and neglect in the Effingham County Circuit Court System. CASA Volunteers work cooperatively with the Effingham County Circuit Court System to ensure prompt delivery of services and to make independent recommendations to the court concerning the child's well-being.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SYSTEMS

618 W Main St., Teutopolis • 217-705-4300 • csscares.org
Community Support Systems is committed to enhancing opportunities to live, learn, work, and play! The organization provides employment programs, residential services, children services, early intervention services and family support. Find Community Support Systems on Facebook.

EFFINGHAM CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

1101 Holly Dr, PO Box 1556 • 217-342-3062
EffinghamChildDevelopmentCenter@yolasite.com

CEFS ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY CORPORATION

1805 S Banker St • 217-342-2193
CEFS Economic Opportunity Corporation is a not-for-profit community action agency providing comprehensive human service programs for people in the service delivery area, with the agency mission to provide opportunities for people through education and support to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency. The website is cefseoc.org.

ONE HOPE UNITED

Lincolnland Building • 1901 S. 4th St. #213 • 217-347-5880
onehopeunited.org
One Hope United is a private human service organization that has been investing in children and families for over 120 years, offering a diverse array of early childhood education, prevention, intervention and community-based programs. Our team of more than 700 talented professionals serves over 9,000 children and families each year in Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Florida.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

1502 E Fayette Ave, Teutopolis • 217-857-1458 • cc.dio.org
Catholic Charities is proud of its 90-plus year history of providing vital social services in our Diocese. Today, we maintain a substantial presence in ten communities throughout the twenty-eight counties of central Illinois. Area Offices operate in the communities of Alton, Carlinville, Decatur, Effingham, Granite City, Mattoon, Quincy, and Springfield

EFFINGHAM SENIOR CENTER

209 S. Merchant St. • 217-347-5569 • eccoa.info
The Mission of this agency is: To elevate the quality of life for the county's older population by providing a single and familiar focal point for the delivery of services to the elderly, by offering these services directly or via linkage to the network of available assistance; to support older persons in their efforts to live independently in their own homes as an alternative to premature or inappropriate institutionalization and to serve as advocates for the aging population and its interest.

CRISIS NURSERY OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY

924 N. Merchant St., Effingham • 217-342-3000
crisisnurseryofeffinghamcounty.com
Crisis Nursery of Effingham County provides protection from and prevention of childhood trauma, abuse and neglect through 24 hour emergency shelter care to children birth through six. Crisis Nursery offers a unique and nurturing space equipped with safe hands and open hearts to all children and families in need. Reasons why families/caregivers might reach out to the Nursery for support could include: parental stress, homelessness, medical crisis, foster placement, court involvement, job related crisis, mental health crisis or domestic violence.

FAMILY LIFE CENTER

605 Eden Ave., Effingham • 217-342-5433; 301 S. Jackson St., Newton • 618-783-5433; 225 E. S. 1st St., Shelbyville • 217-774-4874 • familylifepcc.com
The Family Life Center, a Christian not-for-profit ministry, provides practical assistance, education, and support to empower and equip women, men and families experiencing pregnancy, parenting and related issues to live healthy, productive lives.

EL SHADDAI HOMES

PO Box 6065, Effingham – 217-663-5293
Elshaddaihomes.com
El Shaddai Homes is a long-term residential home for pregnant Women and their babies. This loving Christian family home provides live-in-support, parenting education, life skills, counseling, post birth after care and resource referrals

STAR – STRATEGIC TRAINING & RESTORATION

120 W Jefferson Ave, #102, Effingham
STAR provides support to Effingham County Drug Court by informing, guiding and educating participants compliance entering their intensive drug rehabilitation program. United Way dollars are used to provide these services to Effingham County residents.

Nursing Homes & Senior Assistance Centers

Effingham Rehabilitation & Health Care Center is a 62-bed skilled center, certified for Medicaid and Medicare. ERHCC is located in a residential subdivision. It provides all ranges of services, from respite care to intensified subacute nursing care. ERHCC provides comprehensive therapy services that include: physical, occupational and speech therapies. ERHCC provides adult day care services seven days a week that has been approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health. ERHCC has a personal kitchen for the residents to use in regaining their independence. It offers private and semi-private rooms and encourages residents to bring whatever furnishings they want for a more home-like atmosphere. Social services offer support for assisting residents and families with financial difficulties, and answers Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance questions. It is located at 1610 N Lakewood Dr. For more information, call 217-347-7781.

Brookstone Estates provides full-size apartments, three meals daily in a common dining area, weekly housekeeping, and laundry service, emergency call service, cable TV and all utilities, 24-hour staff, medication reminders, individual thermostats, and free local transportation. Brookstone Estates is located at 1101 N Maple St. Further information can be obtained by calling 217-347-5871.

Lakeland Rehabilitation & Health Care Center is situated one block north of St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital. The center is a 141-bed licensed facility. Services include a secured Alzheimer's unit, an intense therapy department that offers physical, occupational, and speech therapies, respite stay

and private/semi-private rehab to home suites. Lakeland Rehabilitation & Health Care Center is located at 800 W Temple Ave. For more information, call 217-342-2171.

StoneBridge Memory Care Effingham (formerly Lavender Ridge) is a memory care facility. It offers 28 private rooms, each with their own bathroom, mini-refrigerator, and sink. There are also three meals a day provided. Lavender Ridge uniquely features private suites along with all of the amenities and services to create meaningful days in a warm, friendly and secure residence. Our Complete Care approach means that all services and amenities are included in one flat rate no matter what level of care your loved one requires throughout their stay with us. Lavender Ridge is located at 1103 N Maple. For more information, call 217-342-4150. StoneBridgeSeniorLiving.com

Evergreen Nursing & Rehabilitation is a 120-bed skilled facility, providing Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, veterans, respite and hospice care and restorative medicine. Therapy and Wellness Center, providing PT, OT, ST, Restorative and Wellness six days a week. Evergreen's Social Service Department provides psychosocial programming, comprehensive social service, and discharge planning services. Evergreen's Activity Department plays a vital role in keeping residents active, both in the facility and community. Volunteers assist in providing enhanced quality of life for the residents. A wide variety of religious services are provided to meet the spiritual needs of the residents. Private and semi-private accommodations are available, along with the private Medicare Suites. Evergreen Nursing & Rehabilitation Center is located at 1115 N Wenthe. For more information, please call 217-347-7121.

Willowbrook of Effingham is a 36 unit/Suite assisted living memory support residence designed for older adults who suffer from Alzheimer's disease or other dementia related illnesses.



The program is unique in that it is designed on a much smaller scale than most assisted living memory care programs. The floor plan is designed to allow for freedom of movement and accessibility for residents, while providing a secure, safe and monitored atmosphere. Each private one-room Suite allows the resident to bring furnishings and belongings that will personalize their living quarters. Willowbrook is located at 100 Blohm Avenue in Effingham. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Tours of the facility can also be scheduled to meet personal schedules. For more information, call 217-342-3233. willowbrookliving.net

The Glenwood Assisted Living Community has apartments with French doors leading out to a private patio, large living and kitchen area, bedrooms with a walk-in closet and a large personal bath with a walk-in/roll-in shower. There are also many common areas within the facility for friends and family to gather, including a theatre room/chapel, coffee bar, family room with fireplace, exercise room, and an on-site beauty and barber shop. Outside, there is plenty of green space with walking paths, gardens, and a gazebo. Events for residents include shopping trips, musical entertainment, movie nights with popcorn, ice cream socials, games, crafts and more. The nursing staff is licensed or certified and available on-site 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The Glenwood is located at 14061 E 1600th Ave. in Effingham. For more information, call 217-347-8880 or visit theglenwoodcommunities.com.

The Villas of Holly Brook is located at 904 W Evergreen in Effingham. Monthly rates includes three meals a day, expanded cable, internet service, all utilities paid except telephone, staff available 24 hours a day/7 days a week, medication reminders, assistance with bathing and dressing, weekly personal housekeeping, laundry and linen service, and an emergency personal response system. Amenities include a private dining room for entertaining, social and recreational programs, beauty salon for male and female residents, spa room, individual heating and cooling units, theatre room, pool table, two beautiful seating areas with big screen TV's and fireplace and a kitchen area for snacks and beverages. For more information, call 217-342-2345.

Lutheran Care Center in Altamont is a Continuum of Care Retirement Community (C.C.R.C.) dedicated to providing living options aimed at promoting good health. It is a community based on faith. As a CCRC, Lutheran Care Center provides a wide range of living options including skilled nursing, senior living apartments and independent, maintenance-free homes. Lutheran Care Center is able to accommodate each individual at their different stations in life. The campus also

encompasses a child care facility. The children and residents have opportunities for shared, planned activities that are designed with focus on mutual physical, emotional, and social interests and needs. Lutheran Care Center is located at 702 W Cumberland Rd, Altamont, IL. For more information, call 618-483-6136. Lutheran Care Center welcomes persons of all faiths. altamontlcc.org

At **Visiting Angels**, we understand you want top quality senior home care services for your loved one. You are searching for a qualified, professional elder care provider who will treat your family member with compassion, respect and dignity. We can help you find the senior home care provider that meets all your needs. Our senior home care providers are professionals with the training and skills you have been searching for. We'll help you find a senior home care provider who can care for all your loved one's health and well-being needs. Visiting Angels is proud to serve our veterans. Visiting Angels is located at 120 E. Section Ave, For more information call 217-690-4564

HSBS Home Care, a ministry of Hospital Sisters Health System, follows the HSHS mission to reveal and embody Christ's healing love for all people through our high-quality Franciscan health care ministry. We promise to provide exceptional care in your home environment. Activities are directed toward helping you to attain and maintain your highest level of independent living, and to help your family support your health journey. We will meet with you upon admission to discuss your goals and your physician's goals for your health. Efforts are also concentrated on the prevention of further disability, health teaching, and on appropriate referral to allied health professionals as needed. For more information, call (800) 551-6566 or visit hshshomecare.org.

SPS Home Care Service is currently providing medical reminders only. SPS is located at 207 E. Santa Maria Ave., P.O. Box 276, Effingham IL. For more information call (217) 690-3240

Central Illinois Care Services is committed to providing high-quality, client-centered, and affordable home care services to our clients to assist them to lead dignified and independent lives in the comfort of their own homes. Client individual needs are carefully assessed, understood, and met through the selective assignment of qualified, trustworthy, and compassionate personnel. Central Illinois Care Services is located at 1901 South 4th St., Ste. 4. For more information call 217-994-9016. centralillinoishomecare.com

Guardian Angel Adult Daycare is located at 16101 E. US Rt. 40, Teutopolis. For more information call 217-813-6027.

“Where the Only Things You Leave Behind Are Worries”

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www.theglenwoodcommunities.com

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217-342-2121
stanthonyshospital.org

HSHS St. Anthony's Wound Healing Center
217-347-3565

Prairie Heart Institute at HSHS St. Anthony's
217-347-1232
stanthonyshospital.org/heart

HSHS St. Anthony's Convenient Care
900 W. Temple Ave., Bldg. B, Suite 1100, Effingham
217-347-1690
stanthonyshospital.org/savemyspot

HSHS St. Anthony's Women's Wellness Center
900 W. Temple Ave., Bldg. B, Suite 2100, Effingham
• 217-347-1601
stanthonyshospital.org/WWC

HSHS Home Care & Hospice
900 W. Temple Ave. Bldg. A, Suite 101, Effingham
214-347-1777
HSHSHomeCare.org

HSHS St. Anthony's Center for Interventional Pain Management
503 N. Maple St., Effingham
217-347-6702
stanthonyshospital.org/pain

HSHS St. Anthony's Diagnostic & Health Centers
• 900 W. Temple Ave., Bldg. B, Suite 1100, Effingham
217-347-1267

- 3 Do It Dr., Altamont
217-540-2345
- 601 W. Washington St., Newton
618-783-5707
- 206 N. Pearl St., Teutopolis
217-857-6146
- 101 Coles Centre Dr., Suite 101, Mattoon
217-540-2300

HSHS Medical Group Multispecialty Care - Effingham
900 W. Temple Ave., Ste. 2500 Effingham
217-540-2350

- Nitin Kumar, MD, Gastroenterology
 - John Powell, MD - Orthopedic Surgery
 - Dean Page, MD, Plastic Surgery
- HSHSMedicalGroup.org

HSHS Medical Group Diabetes and Endocrinology
500 N Maple St., Ste. 200 Effingham, IL 62401
217-787-8870
HSHSMedicalGroup.org/diabetes

HSHS Medical Group Family and Internal Medicine - Effingham
900 W. Temple Ave. Bldg B., Suite 1500, Effingham
217-347-0458

- Elene Awad, MD, PhD
- Andrew Gage, MD
- Andrew Poulos, MD

The Effingham Ambulatory Surgery Center
904 W. Temple, Effingham
217-342-1234
effinghamurgerycenter.com

Springfield Clinic
springfieldclinic.com
• 300 N. Maple St., Effingham
217-342-4151

Effingham Prompt Care
401 N. Mulberry St., Effingham
217-347-0768
effinghampromptcare.com

Central Illinois Urgent Care
1001 Avenue of Mid-America Ste. 4, Effingham
217-994-9301
centralillinoisurgentcare.com

Family Care Associates
1106 N. Merchant St., Effingham
217-342-7000
familycareassociates.com

Carle Effingham
401 N. Keller Dr., Suites 3 & 4, Effingham
217-347-6400
Carle.org

SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 W. Evergreen Ave., Effingham
217-342-3400
orthopedics.sarahbush.org/sbl-bonutti-clinic/

HSHS Medical Group Urology - Effingham
414 W Virginia Ave., Effingham
217-342-9738
HSHSMedicalGroup.org

Effingham Obstetrics & Gynecology Associates
912 N. Henrietta St., Effingham
(217) 342-3337
effinghamobgyn.com

SBL Effingham Clinic
905 N. Maple St., Effingham
Family Medicine
217-347-7776, 217-347-7030
Walk-In Clinic
217-540-6123

Effingham ENT Clinic
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217-347-7077
sarahbush.org

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618-483-6151

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HSHS Medical Group Family Medicine - Dieterich
207 S. Main St., Dieterich
217-925-5730
HSHSMedicalGroup.org

Springfield Clinic Runde (Runde Clinic)
206 N Pearl St., Teutopolis
217-857-6481

Crossroads Cancer Care Center
905 Medical Park Dr., Effingham
217-342-2066
cancercarespecialists.org

SIHF Healthcare
900 West Temple, Building A, Ste. 208, Effingham, IL 62401
217-342-0211
sihf.org

SBL Evergreen Clinic
General Surgery
1104 W. Evergreen Ave., Effingham
General Surgery
217-347-2500

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SIHF Healthcare
900 W. Temple Ave, Bldg A, Ste
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Rebecca Merchioi, PMHNP-BC

CARDIOLOGY

Masoor Kamalesh, MD
Jessica Prange, MD
Sheri Barnett, APRN
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Prairie Heart Institute at HSHS St.
Anthony's Memorial Hospital
503 N. Maple St., Effingham
217-347-1232

Cory Hess, ACNP
SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 W. Evergreen Ave, Ste 202
217-238-4960

CHIROPRACTORS

Chiropractic Care Center
• Dr. Laura Ames, D.C.
• Dr. Andrea White
• Dr. Allison Cain
305 W Virginia Ave.,
Effingham
217-347-5455

Dr. Chris Dreas
Softwave Therapy
202 N. Banker St., Effingham
217-500-0987

Stanfield Chiropractic Center
414 W Jefferson Ave., Effingham
217-342-7222
doctorstanfield.com

Effingham Physical Therapy &
Massage Center
202 W Cedar Ave., Effingham
217-342-4107

Pals Family Chiropractic
Dr. Penny Pals & Dr. Justin Pals
401 N. Keller Dr., Ste. 2, Effingham
217-342-3384

The Frichtl Clinic
Dr. Jason Frichtl, D.C.
702 N. Keller Drive A, Effingham
217-342-0311

Precision Chiropractic
212 N. Fourth St., Effingham
217-347-5812

Bailey Family Chiropractic
1 E. Jefferson Ave, Altamont
618-483-3838

Disc Centers of America
Effingham
301 N. Keller Drive, Effingham
217-342-2232
effinghamdisccenter.com
New Health Chiropractic
401 N Keller Dr., Ste. 2, Effingham
217-342-3384
newhealthchiro.net

Ballard Family Chiropractic
Dr. Abbie Ballard, D.C.
14225 E Rickelman Ave,
Effingham
217-347-5010
ballardfamilychiro.com

Dr. Samantha Morrison
Chiropractor
3009 S. Banker St., Effingham
618-322-4145

Rhodes to Health Family
Chiropractic & Wellness Center
200 E. Fayette Ave., Effingham
217-500-3027

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Hage Orthodontics
100 Greenview Dr., Ste. A,
Effingham
217-347-5576
drhageorthodontics.com

Schumacher Orthodontics
Dr. Chuck Schumacher
602 Eden Ave., Effingham
217-347-6453
schumacherortho.com

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Adam Link, DMD
Nicholas Schultz, DMD
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217-347-0588

Charles Horin
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217-342-6288

Dr. Margaret Merry-Niebrugge,
DMD
107 S Third St., Effingham
217-347-5076

Balda Dental
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Joe Balda, DMD
Brian Balda, DMD
911 N. Henrietta St., Effingham
217-342-3411
baldadentaloffice.net

Dr. Stephen Willenborg
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217-347-7021
stephenwillenborgdmd.com

Dr. Ted Koester, DMD-PC
111 S First St., Effingham
217-342-4494

Effingham Family Dental
Jeff Stevenson, DDS
310 W. Jefferson Ave., Effingham
217-342-3850

Heartland Family Dental Care
Alison Conant, DMD
Alyssa Phinney, DMD
1379 N. Outer Belt W., Ste. B
Effingham
217-540-5000

SIHF Healthcare
Haritha Nallaparaju, DMD
900 W. Temple Ave., Bldg. A,
Ste. 208, Effingham
217-342-0211

Campos Family Dental
Dr. Gregory Campos, DMD
508 W. Jefferson Ave., Effingham
217-347-4100

Teutopolis Family Dental
Dr. Brett Haarmann, DMD
Dr. Blake Westra, DMD
Dr. Preston Street, DMD
206 N Pearl St., P.O. Box 235
Teutopolis
217-857-3201

Sehy and Huey General and
Family Dentists, P.L.L.C.
Christopher Sehy, DMD
Robert F. Huey, DMD
1 S. Third St., Altamont
618-483-6003

ENDOCRINOLOGY

Radhika Annam, MD
500 N. Maple St., Ste. 200,
Effingham
217-787-8870
HSHSMedicalGroup.org/
diabetes

Hannah Dukeman, APRN
SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 West Evergreen Ave, Ste
201, Effingham
217-234-7000

FAMILY MEDICINE

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Melinda Barthelme, APRN, CNP
Margo McMahon, APRN, CNP
David Padgett, PA-C
300 N. Maple St., Effingham
217-342-4151

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208, Effingham
Rebekah Doty, FNP-C
217-342-0211

GASTROENTEROLOGY

Nitin Kumar, MD
900 W. Temple Ave., Building B,
Effingham
217-540-2350
HSHSMedicalGroup.org

HEARING AID SPECIALISTS

Schackmann Hearing
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217-342-0304

SBL Effingham Clinic
Audiology & Hearing Aid
Services
905 N. Maple, Effingham
347-7077

Belton Hearing Aid Service
1302 Avenue of Mid-America,
Effingham
217-342-1122

Audibel Hearing Center
800 N. Keller Dr., Effingham
217-347-5934

Miracle-Ear Hearing Aid Center
511 W. Virginia Ave., Effingham
217-931-1330

INTERVENTIONAL PAIN MANAGEMENT

Brian Ogan, MD
SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 W. Evergreen Ave, Ste
201, Effingham
217-347-2332

MEDICAL AESTHETICS

Behold Aesthetics & Wellness
Center
Adrian Nowitzke, CRNA, MSN,
APRN
401 S. Banker St., Ste C, Effingham
618-619-8846

Boho Chic Clinique
Jason McAllaster
204 W. Washington Ave, Ste 103
Effingham
217-347-2646

OPTOMETRISTS

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217-342-2900
marioneye.com

Sehy & Jones Optometrists
M. Brian Sehy, O.D.
Matthew R. Jones, O.D.
Craig Woods, O.D.
303 N Keller Dr.
217-342-2672
visionsource-sehyandjones.com

Walmart Vision & Glasses
1204 Ave. of Mid America
217-347-5171
walmart.com

Weber Optiks
Tony Weber, O.D.
Christopher Weber, O.D.
Connor Kabbes, O.D.
• 1301 W. Evergreen Ave.,
Ste. B, Effingham
217-342-3838

- 5 E. Cumberland Rd.,
Altamont
618-881-0884
weberoptiks.com

Visionary Eyewear
903 Medical Park Dr, Effingham
217-347-3939

OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Effingham Ophthalmology
903 Medical Park Dr., Effingham
217-347-2933

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Altamont Medical Center
15 N. Main St, Altamont
618-881-0919, 618-881-0920

SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 W. Evergreen Ave, Ste
103, Effingham
217-342-3444

InLine Physical Therapy
Christy Baker, PT
102 Greenview Dr, Effingham
217-708-5131
305B E Cumberland Rd,
Altamont
618-881-0909

LABORATORY & DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

HSHS St. Anthony's Diagnostic
& Health Centers:
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Suite 1100, Effingham
217-347-1267

- 3 Do It Dr., Altamont
217-540-2345
- 601 W. Washington St., Newton
618-783-5707
- 206 N. Pearl St., Teutopolis
217-857-6146
- 101 Coles Centre Dr., Suite
101, Mattoon
217-540-2300

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Laboratory Services:
1303 W. Evergreen Ave, Ste
101, Effingham
1-877-796-LABS (5227)
Diagnostic Imaging:
1303 W. Evergreen Ave, Ste.
102, Effingham
217-540-6123

Diagnostic Services:
X-Ray, MRI, Ultrasound, CT,
Mobile Mammography
1303 W. Evergreen Ave, Ste.
102, Effingham
217-258-2588

Diagnostic Services: X-Ray, EKG
Family Care Associates
1106 N. Merchant St., Effingham
217-342-7116

PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS (Listed by their specialty field)

DERMATOLOGY

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Dermatology
Lana Schmidt, MD
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FAMILY PRACTICE

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217-347-0768

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217-347-0768

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217-347-3303

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Medicine - Dieterich
207 S. Main St., Dieterich
217-925-5730

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217-234-5110

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217-540-2350

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Katie Roedl, FNP
Courtney Miller, FNP
Lori Johnson, FNP
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217-540-6122

NEPHROLOGY

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217-347-5000

OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

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Dawn McDaid, MD
Kelly Haller, MD
Abbie Massengill, MD
Stefani Beverlin, PA-C
Emily Kreke, PA-C
Nichole Suckow, PA-C
Jody Bierman, APN
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217-342-3337
Effinghamobgyn.com

ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGEONS

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Jay Swanson, DDS, MD
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217-342-4444
jayswansondds.com

Central Illinois Oral &
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100 Greenview Dr.
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217-540-5348
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MEDICAL ONCOLOGY & HEMATOLOGY

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The Wellness Loft
Amy Guy, MS, LCPC
408 S. Fourth St., Effingham
217-347-5118

New Light Counseling
Kimi Dust, MS, Ed. LCPC
Jennifer Mosier, MS, LCPC
Kerrie Jewell, LCSW
Rebekah Wendling, LCPC, CADC

1300 S Raney St, Ste 2, Effingham
217-342-7155
Newlightcounseling.org

Julie's Counseling
Julie Roedl, LCPC
1901 S Fourth St, Ste 7, Effingham
217-821-2876

Griffin Therapeutic Solutions
405 S Third St, Effingham
217-994-9056

Diel Counseling Inc
Patricia Diel, LSW, CADC, SAP
612 S Willow St., Effingham
217-259-2688

Heartland Human Services
1200 N Fourth St, Effingham
217-347-7179

Crossroads Counseling & Consultation, PLLC
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Midwest Neurofitness
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Effingham
217-342-6963

PLASTIC SURGERY

Dean Page, MD
HSHS Medical Group
Multispecialty Care - Effingham
900 W. Temple, Ste. 2500
217-540-2350

RADIATION ONCOLOGY

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Crossroads Cancer Care Center
905 Medical Park Dr., Effingham
217-342-2066
cancercarespecialists.org

Seong R Cho, MD
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905 Medical Park Dr., Effingham
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217-540-2350

SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 W. Evergreen Ave., Ste. 203, Effingham
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- Joseph Ajdinovich, MD
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 - Kayla Deters, APRN
 - Nick Watkins, PA-C
 - Timothy Gray, MD
 - Frank Lee, MD
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Lisa Kowalski, MD
Jason McAllaster, DO

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Vickie Bushur, APRN, CNP

PEDIATRICS

David Kowalski, MD
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Springfield Clinic Effingham

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Springfield Clinic Effingham Dermatology

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OTOLARYNGOLOGY

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ENT Clinic
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• Michael Smith, MD
• Charly Nguyen, MD

PEDIATRICS

(Infant & Child Care)

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Cari Fearday, PA-C
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203, Effingham
217-540-6122

PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION

Rehabilitation & Performance Institute, PSC
1301 W Evergreen Ave., #1A
Effingham
217-690-4882

SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 W. Evergreen Ave.,
Effingham
217-342-3400

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1901 S. Fourth St., Ste. 14,
Effingham
217-705-5077
effinghampelvichealth.com

ProRehab Physical Therapy
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Ste 4, Effingham
Phone: 217-606-3004

HSHS St. Anthony's Physical Rehabilitation and Wellness
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217-347-1243
• HSHS St. Anthony's Health Center – Altamont
3 Do It Dr., Altamont
217-540-2337

Evergreen Nursing & Rehab Center
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217-347-7121

Lakeland Rehabilitation and Health Care Center
800 W. Temple Ave., Effingham
217-342-2171

PULMONOLOGY/SLEEP MEDICINE

Manjeshwar Prabhu, MD
HSHS Medical Group
Pulmonology Specialty Clinic – Effingham
900 W. Temple Ave., Building B, Suite 2500, Effingham
217-329-1000

RHEUMATOLOGY

Mark A. Stern, MD
300 N.. Maple, Effingham
217-342-4151

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217-347-2500
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• Dr. James Flaig, D.O., FACOS

Ruben Boyajian, MD FACS
Specializing in Comprehensive Breast Care
900 W. Temple Ave., Building B, Second Floor, Ste. 2500, HSHS St. Anthony's Health Center, Effingham
217-347-2255
rboyajianmd.com

Springfield Clinic Effingham
Lisa Kowalski, MD
Jason McAllaster, DO
300 N Maple St, Effingham
217-342-4151

SURGERY (HAND)

Frank S. Lee, MD, FAAOS
1303 W. Evergreen Ave.
217-342-3400

SBL Southern Illinois Hand Center
901 Medical Park Dr, Ste. 100, Effingham
217-347-3003

• Nash H Naam, MD, FACS
• Lisa M Sasso, MD, FAAOS
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UROLOGY

P. Dharmadev L. Nayak, MD
Angela Yocom, APRN
HSHS Medical Group Urology – Effingham
414 W. Virginia Ave., Effingham
217-342-9738

Keith Ballinger, PA-C
SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 W. Evergreen Ave., Ste 202, Effingham
217-258-4186

VEIN THERAPY & MEDICAL AESTHETICS

Dr. Jason McAllaster
Boho Chic Clinique
204 W. Washington Ave., Ste. 103, Effingham
217-347-2646

WEIGHT MANAGEMENT

Doug Kabbes, MD
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217-342-5225

PHARMACIES

Andes Health Mart Pharmacy
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217-342-4301

Brown's Drug Store
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217-342-2185

Walgreens Pharmacy
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217-342-6075

Walmart Pharmacy
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Poehler's Pharmacy
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217-925-2838

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905 North Maple
217-347-7077

BONUTTI CLINIC

1303 West Evergreen Ave.
Effingham, IL 62401

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– Hannah Dukeman, APRN
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- **Diagnostic Imaging** - Ste. 102
217-540-6123
- **Internal Medicine** - Ste. 203
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Ste. 200
– Megan Steffen, APRN
Ste. 203
217-540-6122
- **Interventional Pain Management** - Ste. 201
– Brian Ogan, MD
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– Jennifer Hess, APRN
– Louis Schwing, MD
– Nick Watkins, PA-C
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– Peter Bonutti, MD
– Stacia Dennison, APRN
– Kayla Defers, APRN
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– Nick Watkins, PA-C
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- **Family Medicine**
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217-347-7776
Sean Flynn
Kendra Zerrusen
217-347-7030

ENDOCRINOLOGY

SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 West Evergreen Ave.,
Ste. 201
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– Hannah Dukeman, APRN
217-234-7000

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217-347-7077
– Charly Nguyen, MD
– Michael Smith, MD

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217-347-7776
– Sean Flynn,
– Kendra Zerrusen
217-347-7030

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Effingham, IL 62401
217-347-2500
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Effingham, IL 62401
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217-347-7372

SBL Hospice

SBL Effingham Clinic
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Effingham, IL 62401
1-800-454-4055
217-238-6160

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– Louis Schwing, MD - Ste. 200
– Megan Steffen, APRN -
Ste. 203
217-540-6122

SBL Interventional Pain Management

SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 West Evergreen Ave.,
Ste. 201
Effingham, IL 62401
217-347-2332
– Brian Ogan, MD

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SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 West Evergreen Ave.,
Ste. 101
Effingham, IL 62401
1-877-796-LABS (5227)

SBL Occupational Medicine

SBL Bonutti Clinic
1303 West Evergreen Ave.,
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217-342-3400
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– Jennifer Hess, APRN
– Louis Schwing, MD
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217-540-6122
– Cari Fearday, PA-C
– Abby Welsh, MD

Physical and Occupational Therapy

Altamont Medical Center
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SBL Bonutti Clinic
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Effingham, IL 62401
217-342-3444

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SBL Medical Park Plaza
901 Medical Park Dr., Ste. 100
Effingham, IL 62401
217-347-3003
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– Lisa Sasso, MD
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SBL Bonutti Clinic
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Effingham, IL 62401
217-540-6123

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SBL Bonutti Clinic
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Effingham, IL 62401
217-342-5225
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SBL Bonutti Clinic
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Ste. 202
Effingham, IL 62401
217-258-4186
– Keith Ballinger, PA-C

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HSHS ST. ANTHONY'S

HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital

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217-342-2121
stanthonyshospital.org

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Suite 1100, Effingham
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stanthonyshospital.org/
savemyspot

Center for Interventional Pain Management

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217-347-6702
stanthonyshospital.org/pain

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1301 N. Maple St., Effingham
217-347-1243
- HSHS St. Anthony's Health Center – Altamont
3 Do It Dr., Altamont
217-540-2337

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MD
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HSHSMedicalGroup.org
• Manjeshwar Prabhu, MD,
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100, Mattoon
217-234-5110
HSHSMedicalGroup.org
• Bernie Ranchero, MD
• Stacey Tebbe, APRN



On a freezing night in 1905, downtown Altamont burned

BY DEVIN WALK

Altamont was platted in 1870 by J.W. Conlogue, a superintendent of the Vandalia Railroad. Railroad Street, now known as Adams, was the main drag. The railroad depot was Altamont's connection to the rest of the world. The town extended only a few blocks north and south of the tracks. Unlike many towns in Effingham County, Altamont wasn't centered around the National Trail, which was south of town.

The town started out with wooden structures bunched together. Wooden structures were easier to build and were erected in towns experiencing rapid growth. Like during the Great Chicago Fire, these wooden structures were fodder for flames. In 1905, they would erupt. More on that in a bit.

Through the railroads and the National Trail, entrepreneurial souls moved into town to start a new life. Effingham County had its fair share of disappearing communities, so relying on Altamont's survival wasn't a sure bet. However, these people took a chance on creating a new community.

Fred Naumer was born in the Bavaria region of Germany and moved to Altamont in 1888 to manufacture cigars. He later became mayor and helped organize the Altamont Agricultural Fair. Its fairgrounds became the site for the Effingham County Fair.

F.E. Watton was born in Ohio

and moved to Altamont in 1872. He was a carpenter, contractor, and architect. He invented multiple devices, including a patented window screen.

Dr. Charles Wright was born

in 1834 near Boston, Massachusetts. He traveled to the area on the National Trail in 1856, serving as a country doctor based out of Freemanton, one of the first villages in the county. He moved to Altamont in the 1870s and retired from his medical practice to start a bank. He built the Wright House on the north side of town, which is one of three Effingham County buildings on the National Register of Historical Places.

These are just three of many pioneers that achieved the

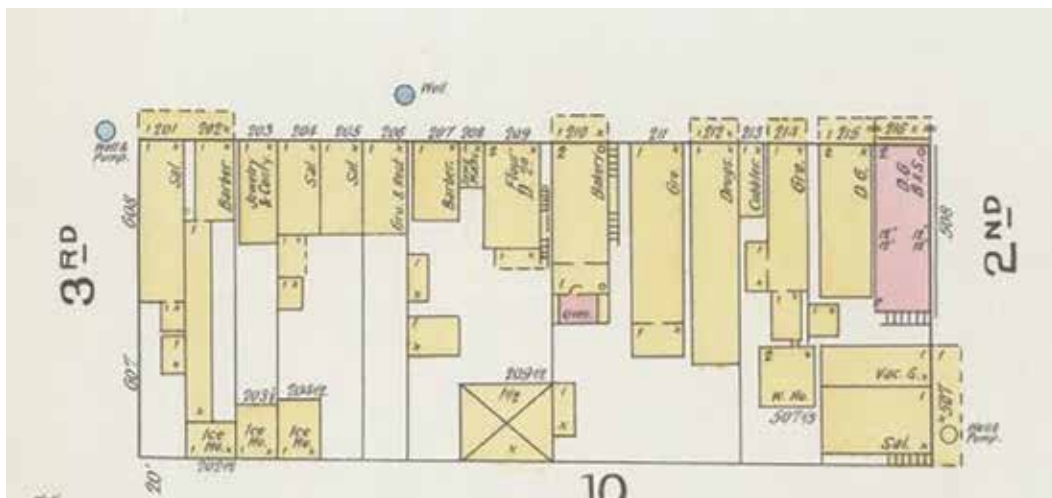
American dream in a blank slate known as Altamont, Illinois.

By 1893, Railroad Street was lined with four saloons, two grocers, two barber shops, two drug stores, a cobbler shop, a jeweler, a hardware shop, and two hotels. Carriage services would pick up passengers from the railroad stations. A series of wells ran parallel to the railroad tracks.

The unpaved roads were muddy throughout significant portions of the year.

Before and after postcard pictures of the fire's impact. (Submitted photos)





An 1893 fire insurance map of the block between Second and Third Streets. Much of this block was destroyed by the 1905 fire. Notice all of the wooden buildings bunched together. (The yellow ones are wooden). Submitted photo

Residents walked on planks of wood that served as sidewalks, while women tried not to get their long dresses muddy. Children were put to work in factories making products like egg cartons at the Altamont Manufacturing Company.

Residents found entertainment in vaudeville acts, debate societies, and literary societies hosted at places like the Wright Opera House. There were also street fairs, baseball games, and church events.

Membership in fraternal organizations was high. The Grand Army of the Republic was a veterans organization for local Civil War veterans. The Knights of Pythias and Odd Fellows served similar purposes as the Masonic Lodge, which also had a presence in town.

By 1905, Altamont was a well established town with a public school, an expanding business district, and an industrial zone with multiple factories. With its four railroads, it was also a center for agriculture.

Around 3:30 a.m. on Jan. 14, 1905, a fire on Railroad Street started in an overheated oven at a bottling works business.

"Owing to the buildings being so old and closely built along the street and no fire protection except willing hands, the town looked doomed for awhile, and had there been a high wind and no snow all efforts would have been in vain," the Altamont News reported.

On that freezing night, Altamont residents were awakened by the city alarm bells. They were horrified to see an ominous glow coming from the downtown area. They quickly gathered pails of water to put out the fire. When the fire increased, an emergency telegram was sent to the Effingham Fire

Department. The Effingham Fire Department sent a special train with volunteers and supplies.

"When (the train) steamed into town, everybody uttered a cry of thankfulness and when the engine was unloaded and the fire laddies got it into operation and a stream of water was directed to the flames, then the citizens could breathe a breath of safety," the Altamont News reported.

The townspeople and the firefighters worked hand in hand to subdue the fire. Eventually, they managed to control the fire. However not before it destroyed many local businesses, with

business owners losing their only source of income.

Much of the block between Third and Second Streets was destroyed. All of the business owners except for one didn't have insurance due to high insurance costs. Some residents had to move from Altamont to find work elsewhere. Other businesses moved to Main Street and other areas associated with the current downtown.

Mayor J.F. Laatsch thanked the citizens of Altamont in a letter published in the Altamont News.

"While all seemed willing to do what they could, many even risked their lives in their determination to arrest the flames in their rapid destruction," he wrote. "This is positive proof that if people are of a willing mind, and work in harmony together, they may battle successfully against any opposing element which it may be possible to resist."

A few weeks after the fire, the city council passed an ordinance restricting the construction of wooden structures in the downtown business district. The city also created an organized, volunteer fire department.

With the emergence of automobiles, passenger trains began to lose significance. The importance of Railroad Street declined. Cars made it easier to travel to other towns and cities for entertainment or shopping.

The town expanded its borders south of Route 40. Eventually, in the 1970s, interstate 70 was constructed. The last passenger train depot was demolished in the 1970s.

Today, the memories of traveling hucksters exiting the railroad stations, tied up horses, and saloons and hotels lining Railroad Street are distant and fading.

A street scene in early Altamont. Date and exact location are unknown. Submitted photo



Parks & Recreation

The Effingham Park District is located at 1906 S Fourth St. in Effingham. It offers a wide variety of recreational activities and facilities for the entire family. Major facilities include an outdoor swimming pool, a recreation center complex, playground, and picnic areas, 12 lighted tennis courts, 11 ball diamonds, 10 of which are lighted, and an 18-hole disc golf course. Call 217-342-4415.

Community Park is located on East Temple Avenue in Effingham and is 35 acres in size. It has 5 ball diamonds, 2 outdoor basketball courts, an 18-hole disc golf course, 4 tennis courts, an outdoor skating rink, plus playground and picnic areas.

Hendelmeyer Park is located at 1906 S Fourth St. in Effingham. It is a 20-acre park that includes a recreation complex that houses two gyms, two meeting facilities, a kitchen, a facility for theatre production with stage area and the Park District offices. The park also includes three lighted softball diamonds, four lighted tennis courts, two playground/picnic areas and a skate park.

Evergreen Hollow is located at 1110 Pelican St. in Effingham. It has 42 acres. The public swimming pool is located there, as are four tennis courts, lighted baseball/softball diamonds, flag football and soccer fields, picnic areas, playground area and tree walk. Recreation programs for youth and adults are provided throughout the year by the park district. Further information about the park district or the local parks can be obtained by calling 217-342-4415 and online at effinghamparkdistrict.org

Bliss Park is a cozy block-sized park located at 201 W. Clark Avenue in Effingham. It has a play area, shaded picnic area, two shelters and an outdoor basketball court.

Harmony Playground is located at 1301 N. Maple St. in Effingham. and is a new playground that accommodates those with disabilities, to provide all children the same outdoor play opportunities.

Lake Sara, located just five miles northwest of Effingham, is a 650-acre lake that provides 27 beautiful miles of shore line and one of the finest family recreation facilities in Central Illinois. Among the features are a public beach, cabins, 18-hole golf course next to Lake Sara and camping and picnic areas. The area also offers fisherman a great opportunity

to "land the big one", noted for its black bass, white bass, crappie, bluegill and channel catfish. For more information, call 217-868-2964.

New to Lake Sara is a launch site for kayaks and canoes. It is located on the west end of the lake. There is also a fishing area for the handicapped. It is located at the east end of the lake. There are special unloading ramps down to the water with safety rails. There are also picnic benches in the area. Also new to Lake Sara are two playgrounds: one for ages 2-5 and another for ages 5-12 closer to the water with a pirate theme. New this year is a Bocce Ball Court just west of the playground near the Disc Golf Course.

Lake Sara has two marinas: The Reel Marina and Lakeside Marina, where gas is sold and boats are available to rent. The Reel Marina is located at 8724 E. Marina Drive, and there is a bar on the Reel Marina called The Rusty Reel, whose number is 217-868-2791. There is a restaurant here called Pinky's whose number is 217-868-BOAT (2628). Lakeside Marina is located at 14839 Park Road. More information can be obtained by calling 217-500-1903. Not far from Lakeside Marina is a new restaurant called Heron Cove. Its hours will start out from noon - 10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Lake Sara Campground provides sites for campers. For more information, call 217-868-2964.

Camp Lakewood is located at 1217 W Rickelman Ave, Effingham. It is an RV Park and Campground ideally located on the shores of Lake Pauline. For further information, call 217-342-6233

Effingham Country Club is located on 2400 W Country Club Drive in Effingham. In addition to an 18-hole private golf course, it provides a driving range, swimming pool, fishing and dining facilities for its members. The course is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. from the first of March until November 30th. Both pull carts and riding carts are available, as well as a pro shop. More information can be obtained by calling 217-347-0423.

Cardinal Golf Course is an 18-hole public golf course located approximately two miles northwest of Effingham in the Lake Sara area. It is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to dusk from March through the end of December. Both pull carts and riding carts are available, as is a driving range. For more information, call 217-868-2860.

Fore-Way Challenge Golf & Driving Range is located at 16041 N 1000th St. (near Lake Sara). It is a USGA accredited 9-hole public golf course with a driving range. The course is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Please call 217-868-5418 for further information or go to forewaygolfcourse.com.

Evergreen Mini Golf is located at 1202 N Maple St. near the public pool. It is an 18-hole, safari-themed golf course



with a concession stand. This family-friendly course is open Friday from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m., Saturday from noon to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 8 p.m. during the summer. Please call 217-821-3922 for further information or go to facebook.com/EvergreenMiniGolfAnd-Concessions.

Pagel's Silver Dollar Lanes is located at 2300 S Banker and is equipped with 24 lanes. Individual bowling, as well as league (winter and summer) bowling is offered. Bumper bowling for children is also available. Fall/winter hours: Open 3pm on Sunday and Monday. Open Tues. at Noon, Wed., Thurs. & Fri. at 3pm; Open Sat. at Noon; Open 3 p.m. Thursday through Sunday during the summer. There is also a bar and game room, which includes two pool tables. For further information, go to silverdollarlanes.com or call 217-342-3939.

Evergreen Bark Park is a beautiful one+ acre dog park providing owners and their four-legged friends the room to get some extra steps in and run. Owners will have the option of releasing their dogs within either a large or small dog section which is now open. Both sections will be fenced and double-gated with entry corrals, so dogs can be let off leash before entering the park. ADA accessible walkways will be provided throughout the park. A pavilion, shade structures, benches, waste stations, and human water fountains with a dog-level water bowl and spout are included on the future plans for the park property. There will also be a rinsing station to clean up your canine before putting him/her in your vehicle.

Effingham County Museum
100 E Jefferson Ave.,
Effingham
217-240-2471, leave a message
Presently open Tuesdays and Saturdays 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. by appointment
effinghamcountymuseum.org

Monastery Museum

110 S Garrett St, Teutopolis
First Sunday of the month,
April thru November except
holidays.
The hours are from
12:30 to 4 p.m.
217-961-6404 ext. 236
stfrancischurch.com

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5253 E. US 40, Altamont
618-483-6856
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a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday
noon - 4 p.m.
Summer hours: Monday-Friday
8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday noon
- 4 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
ballardnaturecenter.org

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Corner of N. Main and W
Jackson St., Altamont
618-483-6397
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- 4 p.m., May-September or
call to make appointment
wrightmansion.org

Gilbert Park

E Cumberland Rd, Altamont

Shumway Kluthe Center

199 Front St N/S, Shumway

Beecher City Area Kluthe Center

105 S. Charles St.,
Beecher City
618-487-5401

Watson Civic Center

103 N Jackson, Watson

Willow Park

806 W Franklin, Watson

Dieterich Memorial Park

203 Park St, Dieterich
217-925-5410
dieterichpark.com

Dieterich Community Civic Center

102 W Virginia, Dieterich
217-925-5410

Effingham Visitor Center

201 E. Jefferson Ave.,
Effingham
217-342-5310
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217-342-3481

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217-342-3333

Evolve Fitness and Climbing

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217-994-9955

The Curl Bar

318 E. Main St., Teutopolis
217-663-6278

Southside Gym

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Cemetery

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Shumway Cemetery
Shumway Methodist Church
Cemetery
Trinity Lutheran Cemetery

ALTAMONT

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Bethlehem Cemetery
Drysdale Cemetery
Fremington Cemetery
Funkhouser Cemetery
German Methodist Cemetery
Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery
Little Prairie Cemetery
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Newman Cemetery
New Salem Cemetery
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Saint Paul Lutheran Cemetery
Salem United Methodist
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Union Cemetery
Wallace Cemetery
Zion Lutheran Cemetery

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Beck William Cemetery
Brockett Cemetery
Brown Cemetery
Davidson Cemetery
Edgewood Cemetery
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217-347-5760 or 217-259-8760

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Effingham County is enthusiastic about high school sports

BY ALEX WALLNER

High school sports reign supreme across the Effingham Daily News coverage area.

Each of the 13 high schools and three cooperative schools provide competitive teams year in and year out, some even at the state level.

Of those 16 schools, the primary schools the EDN covers are our five Effingham County schools: Effingham, St. Anthony, Teutopolis, Altamont, and Dieterich. Beecher City High School, which is in Effingham County, is in a sports cooperative with Cowden-Herrick High School in Shelby County.

Effingham's Tristin Duncan reaches out for a pass against Prairie Central during their IHSA Class 4A quarterfinal game at Fairbury in 2019. Duncan would score on the play leading to a 27-14 Hearts victory. (EDN file photo)



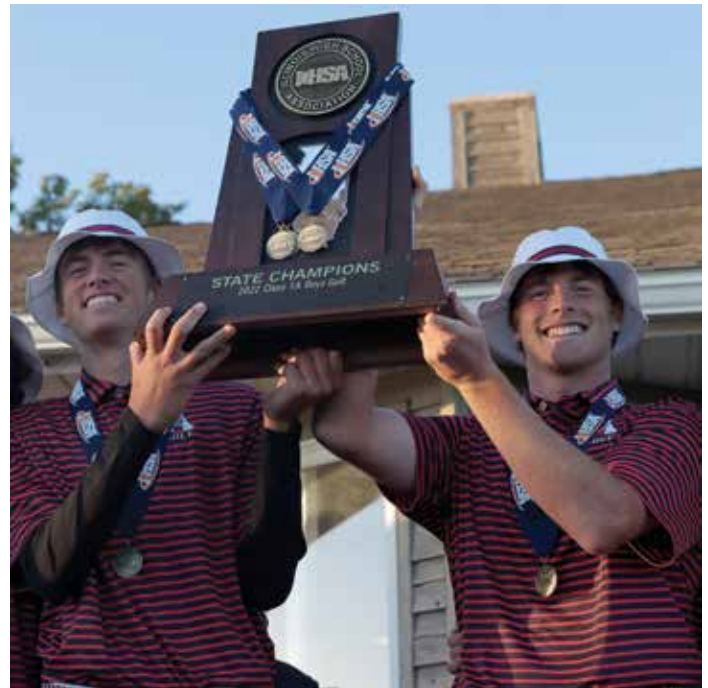
Following is a look at what the schools offer.

EFFINGHAM

Effingham is the publication's largest school, competing in Class 3A in nearly every sport. The sports offered are baseball, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls cross-country, football, boys and girls golf, soccer, boys and girls tennis, boys and girls track and field, wrestling, softball and volleyball.

Nicknamed the Flaming Hearts, Effingham competes in the Apollo Conference.

Of the sports the school offers, four of the most well-known programs are



St. Anthony seniors Michael Martelli (left) and Jonathan Willenborg (right) celebrate after winning the Class 1A State Final Tournament at Prairie Vista Golf Course in Bloomington in 2022. (Alex Wallner/Daily News)

baseball, boys and girls basketball and football.

In baseball, the Flaming Hearts have won 13 regional, one sectional championship and one super-sectional championship since 1974.

They have had four head coaches since then. The most successful was Chris Fleener, who coached at Effingham from 2000 to 2019. Fleener finished his career with the Flaming Hearts with a 421-219 record, nine regional and the one sectional championship.

The current head coach is Curran McNeely, who has been the head coach since 2021.

In boys basketball, Effingham has won 23 regional, five sectional, and three super-sectional championships since 1936. They have qualified for the state tournament three times and placed once (1980, 2nd).

They have had 15 head coaches since then. The most successful was James

Maxedon, who coached the Flaming Hearts from 1967 to 1991. Maxedon finished his career with Effingham with a 458-193 record, 11 regional, four sectional and three super-sectional championships. He also helped the Flaming Hearts qualify for those three state tournaments.

The current head coach is Obie Farmer.

In football, Effingham has qualified for the state football playoffs 22 times since 1978.

They have had eight head coaches since 1946. The most successful was Jack Klosterman, who coached the Flaming Hearts from 1956 to 1980. Klosterman finished his career with Effingham with a 164-53 record.

The current head coach is Brett Hefner, who has been the head coach since 2015.

Lastly, in girls' basketball, the Flaming Hearts have won nine regional and three sectional championships.



Teutopolis senior Emily Konkel dribbles past a Mt. Carmel defender during a Class 2A regional championship game at Carmi (White County) High School in February 2023. Konkel earned a spot on the Effingham Daily News All-Area First Team. (Alex Wallner/Daily News)

They have had four coaches since 1979. The most successful has been current head coach Jeff Schafer, who has a 469-259 record. Effingham finished last season 20-11 and lost to Mattoon in the Class 3A Mattoon Regional Finals.

ST. ANTHONY

St. Anthony competes in Class 1A in nearly every sport. The sports offered are baseball, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls cross-country, boys and girls golf, soccer, boys and girls tennis, boys and girls track and field, softball and volleyball.

Nicknamed the Bulldogs, St. Anthony competes in the National Trail Conference.

Of the sports the school offers, three of the most well-known programs are baseball, boys basketball and boys golf.

In baseball, the Bulldogs have won 15 regional, seven sectional and six super-sectional championships. They have also placed three times in the state tournament and won it once since 1980.

There have been 10 head coaches since 1980. The most successful was Kenny Miller, who coached from 2010 to 2013 and won the program's only state championship in 2012, while the winningest coach was Dave Bartlett, who coached from 1987 to 1991 and had a record of 99-41, including a fourth-place finish at the state tournament in 1991.

The current head coach is Tony Kreke, who has been the head coach since 2019.

In boys basketball, St. Anthony has won 26 regional, six sectional and five super-sectional championships since 1954. They have qualified for the state tournament five times and won it once.

They have had 16 head coaches since 1954. The most successful has been current head coach Cody Rincker, who has a 223-87 record. Rincker helped win the program's only state championship in 2017. The Bulldogs finished last season with a 22-13 record and a regional championship.

Lastly, in boys' golf, St. Anthony has won five state

championships and placed three other times under current head coach Phil Zaccari. The Bulldogs won the state tournament this past season.

While those three programs are the most notable, others have also stepped up in recent years.

The girls golf program has two state championships (2007 and 2008) and finished second in 2006 and third in 2022 and the softball team has one state trophy (2021, 2nd). St. Anthony earned a second state trophy this year in Class 2A, defeating Johnson City to claim third place.

TEUTOPOLIS

Teutopolis competes in Class 2A in nearly every sport. The sports offered are baseball, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls cross-country, boys and girls golf, soccer, boys and girls tennis, boys and girls track and field, softball and volleyball.

Nicknamed the Wooden Shoes in boys athletics

and the Lady Shoes in girls athletics, of the sports the school offers, three of the most well-known programs are baseball and boys and girls basketball.

In baseball, Teutopolis has won 23 regional, 17 sectional and 12 super-sectional championships since 1997. They have placed in the state tournament 10 times and have won it four times.

There have been three head coaches since then. The most successful was Justin Fleener, who coached from 2001 to 2021. Fleener finished his career with a 517-119 record, 18 regional, 14 sectional, nine super-sectional and four state championships.

The current head coach is Jordan Thoele, who is in his first year.

In boys basketball, the Wooden Shoes have won 35 regional, 15 sectional and seven super-sectional championships. They have qualified for the state tournament seven times and placed four times since 1945.

Altamont's Lanie Tedrick screams after a point during a volleyball match against Sullivan on Thursday, September 1, 2022 at Altamont High School. (Alex Wallner/Daily News)



There have been nine head coaches since 1924. The most successful was Ken Crawford, who coached from 1981 to 2007. Crawford finished his career with a 612-150 record, 12 regional, seven sectionals and six super-sectionals championships. He helped win the program's lone state championship in 1986.

Lastly, in girls basketball, the Lady Shoes have won 40 regional, 26 sectional and 18 super-sectional championships. They have placed in the state tournament 15 times and won it six times since 1979.

There have been four head coaches since then. The most successful was Dennis Koester, who coached from 1982 to 2006. Koester finished with a 652-88 record, 23 regional, 17 sectional and 13 super-sectional championships. He also helped win the program's five state championships.

ALTAMONT

Altamont competes in Class 1A in every sport. The sports offered are baseball, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls cross-country, boys and girls golf, soccer, boys and girls track and field, softball and volleyball.

Nicknamed the Indians in boys athletics and the Lady Indians in girls athletics, of the sports that the school



Dieterich's Andrew Hall beats a tag at home plate to score a run during a baseball game against Cowden-Herrick/Beecher City on Friday, August 27, 2022, at Dieterich High School Baseball Field. (Alex Wallner/Daily News)

offers, Altamont has won one state championship (softball in 2014).

They have reached the super-sectional round in baseball (2017, 2018), softball (2013), girls basketball (1980) and volleyball (2019).

DIETERICH

Dieterich competes in Class 1A in every sport. The sports offered are baseball, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls cross-country, track and field, softball and volleyball.

Nicknamed the Movin Ma-rooms, of the sports that the school offers, Dieterich has reached the super-sectional

round in baseball (2008) and boys basketball (2014).

COWDEN-HERRICK/BEECHER CITY

CHBC is a cooperative between the Beecher City and Cowden-Herrick high schools, competing in Class 1A. Nicknamed the Bobcats, sports offered are basketball, baseball, softball,

track and field, cross-country and volleyball.

In 2022, a track and field team made up of two athletes – seniors Jadon Robertson and Daniel Lucas – led the Bobcats to their first state championship in the school's history. CHBC shared first-place honors with Catlin Salt Fork, finishing the meet with 44 points.

Cowden-Herrick/Beecher City's Jadon Robertson (left) and Daniel Lucas (right) won a Class 1A state championship in 2022 at Eastern Illinois University's O'Brien Field. (Alex Wallner photo)



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Community leaders sketch the future of Effingham County

BY NICK TAYLOR

Effingham County residents and representatives from area businesses recently gathered at Effingham High School to eat, discuss the future and hear about the progress being made throughout the county during the Promoting a Vision for Effingham County (PAVE) Community Breakfast.

PAVE is a community MAPPING program aimed at envisioning and working to create a better future for Effingham County.

During the breakfast, the crowd heard from a number

of community leaders who provided updates on a variety of recent, upcoming or ongoing projects happening throughout the county.

Effingham City Commissioner Larry Micenheimer encouraged residents to "get off the couch this summer" and take advantage of the city's new bike lanes or purchase a golf cart, which can now be ridden in several areas in the county.

"You can also get on the TREC trail and go check out the nature park that's gonna open this summer," Micenheimer said. "Those

are really great things. Go out and enjoy the new community that we live in."

Micenheimer also touted the long-awaited construction on Fayette Avenue, which has been roughly 30 years in the making and finally began in early June.

The project consists primarily of widening the road from Illini Drive to Walnut Street in Effingham in order to reduce congestion and improve the overall quality of the road as well as the safety of drivers.

"It will totally change the core to our community," Micenheimer said. "We're

really lucky to have this opportunity to see Effingham grow and get traffic moving through our streets efficiently."

Meanwhile, Micenheimer said he expects recent county improvements, like those made to the skate park, to continue attracting more businesses, residents, visitors and, in turn, more revenue to the community.

"Our sales tax is incredible," he said. "We always have four or five restaurants kicking their tires on moving to Effingham, so cross your fingers. There's lots of things going to happen."

Another recent development in the community that Micenheimer claimed "slid under the radar" is the preparation for the opening of the Lake Land College Rural Development Technology Center in Effingham, which will include space for the Effingham Regional Career Academy to operate and is expected to be open for classes by the fall of 2024.

"If we don't do something to replace the skilled people in our labor workforce, we're really gonna be in a real bind," he said. "It's gonna be something that's gonna be a great asset to our community, something that we're really looking forward to."

Also providing updates was Effingham Unit 40 Superintendent Andrew Johnson, who shared some news and reflected on his first year as the district's superintendent.

"I've never been more re-energized than coming to Effingham a year ago," Johnson said. "Throughout my career, I've had lots of ups and downs and dealt with lots of things, but this community's incredible."

Johnson took a moment to

Effingham County residents and community leaders listen to the special guest for the PAVE Community Breakfast, Teresa McCloy, who spoke during the event at Effingham High School in May. (Nick Taylor photo)



reflect on the cyberattack the district experienced in February, which shut down the district's network and even forced the district to briefly cancel classes, saying that someone "invaded our world."

Despite this, Johnson has remained optimistic and claimed that the crisis, like the COVID-19 pandemic, revealed the resilience and unity of the district and the community.

"When you go through a crisis, when you go through problems, when you go through struggles, where do you turn?" he said. "We turn to each other."

Furthermore, he praised those who "stood up" and "stepped in" to help during what was a "pretty rough time."

"My first year here has been very interesting, but I love it," he said.

Johnson shared his excitement for the

upcoming unveiling of the district's day care facility, which is scheduled to open July 1, and will be directed by Jennifer Fox. She "has taken the bull by the horns" as the head of the site, which the district purchased from Little Lambs Daycare.

Johnson explained that the district's ongoing efforts to recruit and retain quality staff are dependent on the availability of affordable child care in the area because employees with children need a place to take them while they work.

"But what has that got to do with day care? It has a lot to do with the day care," he said.

He told the audience that the day care will open a week after the district's day care staff complete their training.

Although the day care is currently meant for children of staff and students, Johnson said that some spots at the day care could



PAVE Project Coordinator Brittany Sunderman speaks to the audience during the PAVE Community Breakfast at Effingham High School in May. Sunderman shared updates on some of the county's upcoming and ongoing events and fundraisers. (Nick Taylor photo)



Effingham City Commissioner Larry Micenheimer updates residents and local business leaders about some of the progress recently made throughout the county, including the beginning of construction on Fayette Avenue in Effingham, during the PAVE Community Breakfast in May. (Nick Taylor photo)

be available for others in the area sometime in the future.

"We're not gonna sit on an opportunity for other people," he said.

Additionally, Johnson, who serves on the PAVE housing action team, addressed the county's housing crisis and discussed its impact on the district's efforts to attract more quality staff to the area.

"My hope is in the next three, four, five years we start to see some gravitation in this direction," he said. "If we don't get some houses here, we're not gonna be able to help my recruitment-retention process because there's

nowhere for them to live."

Furthermore, he said the district is in the process of obtaining a tuition waiver that would allow the children of staff living outside of the district to attend Unit 40 schools for free.

"We will have that in August," he said.

Johnson also shared the district's recent marketing strategy with the crowd. It aims to promote positive things happening at Unit 40 schools. He encouraged local businesses to feel free to reach out to the district if they are interested in collaborating in the future.

"I, after 28 years in this



Effingham Unit 40 Superintendent Andrew Johnson addresses the crowd at the PAVE Community Breakfast at Effingham High School in May. Johnson discussed a number of local issues, including the recent housing crisis. (Nick Taylor photo)

business, am tired of listening to the nonsense," he said. "Why would we let anybody in this community speak ill about what we do in this community? We are your product."

Also speaking during the event, in what she regrettably said would be her last PAVE Community Breakfast, PAVE Project Coordinator Brittany Sunderman provided updates on some of the recent work of the five PAVE action teams that have been working toward a variety of goals aimed at improving the community.

She discussed a feasibility study that was done to better determine the county's need for affordable child care, calling the results "kind of shocking," and emphasized the county's need for significantly more child care spots by 2028.

"There's a lot of stuff that we need," Sunderman said. "And that study really dove into that need. And we're going to use all that data to provide direction in addressing future challenges for our workforce."

Sunderman also touted future upgrades to the skate park at Hendelmeyer Park and the Evergreen Bark Park, which held its ribbon cutting ceremony May 6.

The Bark Park already includes two separate fenced-in playing areas for large and small dogs, and future plans for the park include more benches, a shaded structure, sidewalks and a water fountain.

"The park district has got so many plans, and they're very excited to kind of expand and do things like that," Sunderman said.

She also said that the first phase of improvements at the skate park are nearly complete and should be

ready for Ham City Jam competition in July.

Like Johnson, she discussed the county's current housing crisis, calling the problem a "beast," and she said an action team has been working with Lake Land College to collect data on housing movement in the area over the years to be used in the future as the community continues to grow and develop.

In addition to these projects, PAVE is currently holding, in collaboration with Enduring Freedom Ministries, an "Interview Clothing Drive" in which the group has been collecting proper interview attire for residents who might not be able to otherwise afford to do so, which can make it difficult for applicants to find employment.

"We have had so many clothes already," Sunderman said. "It's incredible."

The event will conclude with a "Dress for Success" event July 29, where attendees can receive financial advice and stylist tips.

"And we're gonna have stylists there," Sunderman said.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help at the Dress for Success event can visit lovetheham.org for more information.

Before concluding her speech, Sunderman announced that PAVE is donating \$5,000 to BenchWorx, an education program that uses a mobile trailer as a classroom to teach kids about woodworking, which is planning to host workshops at the Effingham County Fair on July 30.

"It gets them off their phones and just into something interactive and awesome," she said.

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After the devastating news of the closing of the Rosebud Theatre in Effingham, a group of local business men and women met and decided that they must work to save the theatre. The group acknowledged the community's disappointment as the Rosebud Theatre is truly a remarkable entertainment complex. Effingham and South Central Illinois sincerely embraced the live entertainment that graced the stage of this beautiful theatre. The men and women representing the ACCI refused to let the curtain close forever! The Arts Connection of Central Illinois organized themselves as a not-for-profit group, immediately put past Rosebud Executive Director Janie Oldfield on retainer as a consultant and devised a plan that would include the City of Effingham purchasing the facility and leasing it back to the ACCI for \$1/year. Kim Jansen is the Executive Director.

FACE (Fine Arts, County of Effingham)

effinghamface.com ; e-mail info@effinghamface.com
The Fine Arts County of Effingham (F.A.C.E.) originated in 1974, formed by individuals who felt a desire of artistic expression who wished to join with others in performing and advancing the overall awareness of the arts. These volunteers set a campaign to promote and encourage the development of drama, painting, music and dance in the Effingham area. Today, F.A.C.E. has expanded its exposure, production and

involvement in the artistic affairs in Effingham. Our community now has an opportunity to participate in, enjoy or sponsor programs of orchestral and choral music, as well as theatrical performances. In addition, F.A.C.E. offers annual scholarships to area students to further education and exposure to chosen mediums of artistic interest. F.A.C.E. is a not for profit organization governed by a Board of Directors from the Effingham county area. These volunteers devote their time and resources to ensure this organization flourishes and responds to the creative needs of Effingham county. This Board also works closely with the Effingham Art Guild for the extension of the visual and physical arts medium. Our organization welcomes anyone who desires to participate in the purpose of this group. F.A.C.E. nurtures these volunteers in directing, acting, stage craft, lighting, sound, and costume design as well as all other aspects of production. Musical and vocal participants can enjoy the opportunity to perfect their craft as well.


Effingham Art Guild

Hendelmeyer Park District Ron Diehl Recreation Center, Fine Arts Room, 1906 S Fourth St; 217-342-4415;
email: effinghamart@gmail.com
Membership is open to anyone that appreciates art. Most of our members have some degree of artistic skill but it is not a requirement of membership. The guild hosts annual exhibits and monthly meetings.




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Effingham County Building
101 N. Fourth St.
Ste. 301
Effingham, IL 62401
217-342-4990

Effingham County Board



District A - Norbert Soltwedel



District B - Joshua Douthit, Chairman



District C - Tim Ellis



District D - David Campbell, Vice Chairman



District E - Christopher Keller



District F - Elizabeth Huston



District G - Doug McCain



District H - Sandra Gillet



District I - Jeremy Deters

Effingham County Sheriff



Paul Kuhns
101 N. Fourth St.
Phone: 217-342-2101
Jail and booking:
217-342-3866
Civil process:
217-342-8467

Effingham County Coroner



Kim Rhodes
101 North Fourth St.
Ste. 401
Phone: 217-342-4651

Effingham County Elected Officials

City of Altamont
202 North Second Street
Altamont, Illinois 62411
618-483-5212

CITY COUNCIL

Dan Milleville, Mayor

COMMISSIONERS

Jason Rippetoe
Michael Walker
Terry White
Tayler Polk

To contact the mayor or
a commissioner: info@
altamontil.net

CITY CLERK AND TREASURER

Sarah Stephen

POLICE DEPARTMENT

202 North Second Street
Altamont, Illinois 62411
(618) 483-6219
Police Chief Alan Heiens

ALTAMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

109 W Jefferson Ave.
Altamont, IL 62411
Fire Chief Jon Becker

Village of Beecher City
108 S George St.
Beecher City, IL 62414
618-487-5315

Village board meetings are
at the Kluthe Center on the
third Monday of the month
at 7 p.m.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Rita Sue Felty

VILLAGE TRUSTEES

Stacey Bowlin
Dail Schonschack
Leslie Wood
Denise Childress
Doug Ray
Jason Wells

VILLAGE CLERK

Terri Doty

TRI-COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

101 E Poplar St, Beecher City
(618) 487-5700
Chief: Doug Ray
dray@scottpet.net

Village of Dieterich
103 E. Section St.
Dieterich, IL 62424
217-925-5410

The Village Board meetings
are on the first and third
Monday of each month.
Meetings are in the
Dieterich Civic Center at
201 W. Virginia St. and begin
at 6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT

Brad Hardiek
bhardiek@dieterichillinois.
com

TRUSTEES

Frederick Bray
Matt Flowers
Jeff White
Pam Hartke
Carrie Galbraith
Bill Lane

**DIETERICH VILLAGE
CLERK AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
COORDINATOR**

Brittany Gipson

DIETERICH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

100 Zumbahlen Ave,
Dieterich, IL 62424
217-925-5155
Fire Chief Ross Martin

Town of Mason

Meetings first Monday of
every month at 6 p.m.
except holidays (Tuesday
after holiday) at the
Mason town hall, 613
Independence St.

COUNCIL

Donald Flowers, mayor

TRUSTEES

Lisa O'Leary
Sally Chandler
Taylor Flowers
J.T. Kuhlman
Melanie Noland
Vivian Cain
Sandra Henderson

CLERK

Tina Moore

TREASURER

Melody Culver

Village of Montrose

Meetings first Monday of
every month at 6:30 p.m. at
the village hall,
203 W. National Rd.
217-924-4300

PRESIDENT

Steve Browning

TRUSTEES

Lonnie Loy
Brad Horton
Jane Mellendorf
Mary Lilly

CLERK

Holly Huber

TREASURER

Cherie Englebart

Village of Shumway

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Linda Moore

TRUSTEES

Suzanne Long
Joseph Kemme
Darren Klepzig
Alberta Saegesser

VILLAGE CLERK

Derrick Helmbacher

Village of Teutopolis
106 W Main St.
Teutopolis, IL 62467
217-857-3543

Board meetings are on the
first and third Wednesday of
the month at 7 p.m. in the
Village Hall.

PRESIDENT

David Repking

TRUSTEES

Christina Mette
Daniel Zerrusen
Angie Kroeger
Greg Oseland
Dave Tegeler
Bernard Hartke

VILLAGE CLERK

Amy Vahling

TREASURER

Reta Swingler

TEUTOPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

106 W Main St.
Teutopolis, IL 62467
217-857-3543
Police Chief Jeff Bushue

TEUTOPOLIS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

215 W Main St.
Teutopolis, IL 62467
217-203-0746
Fire Chief Tim McMahon

Village of Watson

Village board meetings are
on second Tuesday of the
month at 7 p.m. at Village
Hall, 204 N Monroe.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Colby Higgs

TRUSTEES

Joey Meyer
Candice Higgs
John Fulk
Kaleb VanSyoc
John Flach

VILLAGE CLERK

Tom Freeman

VILLAGE TREASURER

Judy Weiffenbach

Effingham looks to a bright and prosperous future

MIKE SCHUTZBACH
EFFINGHAM MAYOR



Even with the challenges and hurdles of COVID and an economy recovering

from its aftermath, the City of Effingham stood strong, united, and set to travel the path for a future of growth and economic stability.

Through positivity, tenacity, and oftentimes sheer grit, the City of Effingham took charge of many ambitious infrastructure projects.

A \$1.4 million roadway at the newly constructed John Boos Company, located on Thies Avenue, resulted in the creation of new career opportunities. In cooperation with Effingham County, improvements were made to Airport Road and its infrastructure. The City is working on improvements of the Willenborg and Evergreen infrastructure and roadway.

A Wernsing and Raney intersection turn lane is being constructed to improve traffic flow at the intersec-

tion. The continued work on the Rickelman Avenue Project, designed to provide a northside connector road from North Route 45 west to Keller Drive, will improve traffic flow for future development in the Ford Avenue area.

The city continues to work with the state and adjacent property owners on the long-anticipated Fayette Avenue Roadway Improvement Project, which will relieve traffic congestion and eliminate the hazardous, crowded conditions of this most highly used thoroughfare.

The city's Economic Development Team remained proactive this past year. With Flex-N-Gate's move to Effingham, the city joined forces with private development of available properties and The Alliance to create an incentive for a demanding housing market.

The city purchased a property in a highly desired area on the north side of town for development purposes that has been resold and is now contracted for a new motel. A 154-acre property south of town was purchased as well for future business

and industry development. QuikTrip travel center created massive infrastructure improvements along North Route 45 and is now close to opening its doors.

The city continues to work hard to find a good fit for the Village Square Mall. A new business, Rent X, purchased the city's visitors' center property off Keller Drive. The visitors' center is now located at City Hall.

The city continues to support the medical community and is grateful for recent medical facility expansions.

With economic development growth, the city continues to partner with The Alliance and the Effingham County Chamber on many projects, including child care shortages, housing needs, and employment opportunities. The city continues working with the Effingham Regional Career Academy and assisting with the Effingham County Job Fair.

An expanded TIF District on the south side of Effingham was created to spur economic development in that area.

The city conducted a housing needs assessment survey, received a federal grant to assist in housing repairs for low-income residents, and most recently received a grant for housing and workforce development. The city conducted a study to ensure our building codes are up to date and comparable to other cities.

The expansion of the Enterprise Zone was completed to spur a residential building incentive allowing for a five-year abatement of property taxes on newly built homes and a three-year abatement for multi-family complexes. The new Enterprise Zone also includes the abatement on sales tax materials used in the construction.

The city worked tirelessly with the north/south rail line to create a quiet zone within the city eliminating train horns.

A new fire truck, police cars, snowplows, and a street sweeper were purchased and have been added to the city-wide vehicle fleet. The city also recently constructed a public property building and a new fire station on the south side of town.

Projects at the Waste Water Treatment Plant included the purchase of Ultraviolet (UV) Disinfection System that complies with EPA to disinfect waste water before it enters the outfall stream; and replacement of the existing generator with a new larger generator to operate the entire plant during power outages. Projects for the Water Department included repainting the exterior and interior of the 1.5 million-gallon Rickelman water storage standpipe; and creating a lead service line inventory, which IEPA mandated, whereby each community water supplier must identify the material of all water services lines, resulting in 5,312 water lines inventoried.

The city continues to improve the quality of life for our community with financial support of the Effingham Performance Center, Effingham City/County Committee on Aging (Senior Services Effingham County), TREC Trail, bicycle paths, and Effingham Park District projects including the skate park and the new dog park. The city wants to keep citizens well informed and has most recently launched a new public information system, TextMyGov, that notifies participants of special events and emergencies within our community.

The City of Effingham thanks our citizens, business and industry, and civic leaders for contributions this past year, and we are excited for the challenges ahead for a bright, prosperous future.

Shown are a few of the 19,000 vehicles that travel down Fayette Avenue daily. Officials say the expansion project for this stretch of Fayette will alleviate congestion and make the road safer.
Effingham Daily News file photo



Dieterich sets the pace for rural economic development

BRAD HARDIEK

DIETERICH VILLAGE
PRESIDENT



The Village of Dieterich has been a pace-setter for rural economic

development and 2023 is proving to be no different. The newly developed Dieterich Industrial Park East opened for lot sales early in 2022 and to date there are 13 of the 23 lots already sold. The lots are fully developed, shovel ready, and sell for just \$10,000/acre. Wright's Furniture and Flooring began construction on their new 31,200 sq ft warehouse and distribution center. Groundbreaking for the new Clearview Car Wash will be held this summer. More developments are in the planning stages and details will be announced soon.

On March 6, Dr. Michelle Braddy opened her new medical facility located at 207 S. Main St., right next door to the former Dieterich Medical Center. At HSHS Medical Group Family Medicine – Dieterich, Dr. Braddy and her staff specialize in Family Medicine with an emphasis on women's health and pediatric care.

South Main Street is undergoing more renovations with the construction of the Maroon Spoon, owned by Jeff and Julia Schuppert. The Maroon Spoon will be an ice cream and treats shop, located at 115 South Main St. Opening is slated for late summer.

Construction is underway for the new Wright Family Center, located just east of Dieterich Unit 30 School on Pine Street. This new recreation center and day care facility is the definition of collaboration. A \$2.1 million grant was received from IDNR for a portion of the construction of the recreation center and over \$1 million has been donated by local business and families to bring this building to life. Donations are still needed and there are still naming rights and donor wall spaces available. Reach out to Dieterich Village Hall if you are interested in leaving a permanent legacy with your name or business that will shape the future of Dieterich. Montessori Kids Universe will be the day care provider and there will be space for 50 children ages 6-weeks to 5-years-old. Grand Opening is anticipated for the first quarter 2024.



This 2019 photo shows a house under construction in Dieterich's Hartke Subdivision. Effingham Daily News file photo

Dieterich Unit 30 School is undergoing a large construction project renovating portions of the K-12 building interior and surrounding grounds. Steady growth of student enrollment in the last 15 years has necessitated this project. They are adding six new classrooms, two new banks of restrooms, a state-of-the-art science lab, renovating all current restrooms, utility infrastructure improvements, and a gym lobby renovation. In conjunction with the Dieterich Sportsbackers, improvements to the grounds surrounding the baseball and softball diamonds are

underway along with new spectator safety netting.

Hartke Subdivision continues to thrive with new residential development. The shovel ready lots sell for \$4,000 and only six lots remain out of 38.

There will be continued construction throughout the village in 2023. We were chosen for a Safe Routes To School grant through IDOT and various sidewalks will be repaired and new sidewalks added throughout Dieterich. East Section Street will be undergoing construction on a new storm sewer system that will be constructed later in the year.

Wright's Furniture and Flooring held a groundbreaking ceremony on May 11 to celebrate construction starting on its new 31,000-square-foot warehouse facility. The warehouse will be located within the new Dieterich Industrial Park East at 205 Corporate Street and is expected to be complete before the end of the year. From left are Steve Kroeger, Alex Wright, Lindsay Wright (with Della Ruth Wright), Ruth Wright, Taylor Wright, Tammy Wright, John Wright, Linda Wright and Tom Wright. Submitted photo



Effingham City Elected Officials

The City of Effingham is a non-home rule unit which operates under a commission form of government. The City Council is comprised of a mayor and four commissioners who are elected for four-year terms.

An appointed city administrator who serves at the direction of the mayor and City Council assists the City Council with the development and implementation of policy and in the administration and oversight of the day-to-day operations of the City.

Effingham is a full-service City providing law enforcement services, fire fighting and fire prevention services, liquor control code enforcement, fire code enforcement services, economic development, tourism, library, and public works services that include streets, water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, building code, plumbing code, and electrical code.

Effingham City Council

Meetings are on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 5 p.m. at city hall.

Effingham Plan Commission

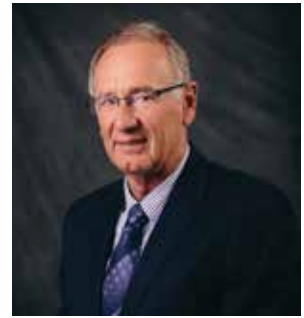
Meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at city hall.

Brian Hayes, Chairman
Mark Thies, Vice Chairman
Dave Storm
Theresa Hillyer
Cindy Vogel
Michael McHugh
Ken Wohltman
Clint Spruell
Alan Harris

Effingham City Council



Mike Schutzbach,
Mayor: mschutzbach@
effinghamil.com



Hank Stephens,
Commissioner: hstephens@
effinghamil.com



Larry Micenheimer,
Commissioner:
lmicenheimer@
effinghamil.com



Merv Gillenwater,
Commissioner:
mgillenwater@effinghamil.
com



Libby Moeller,
Commissioner: lmoeller@
effinghamil.com

Effingham Police Department

110 S 3rd St.
Effingham, IL 62401
217-347-0774
Police Chief Jason McFarland

Effingham Fire Department

505 W Fayette Ave.
Effingham, IL 62401
217-342-4131
Fire Chief Brant Yochum

Effingham Public Library Board of Directors

Matt Greider, Co-President:
217-342-1065
Jared Chesnut, Co-President:
217-663-3047
Shelby Dasenbrock, Treasurer:
217-240-0118
Charlene Topel, Secretary:
217-342-4079
Lisa Koerner: 217-821-3308
Steve Miller: 217-343-5300
Rod Wiethop: 217-347-5442
Dennis Presley
Hank Stephens

Effingham Park Board Members

Effingham Park Board
Meetings are on the first Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the Administrative Office of the Park District at 1906 South Fourth St.

President Russ Sehy:
sehyfamily5@gmail.com
Vice President Mike Cunningham:
mikecunningham731@yahoo.com
Angie Kronewitter:
angshopping@hotmail.com
Matt Dasenbrock
Kevin Palmer
Call them at 217-342-4415.

State and Federal Officials

Federal government



President Joe Biden (D)
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania
Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500
202-456-1111



U.S. Sen. Richard J.
Durbin (D)
525 S. Eighth St.
Springfield, IL 62703
217-492-4062



U.S. Sen. Tammy
Duckworth (D)
230 S. Dearborn St.,
Ste. 3900
Chicago, IL 60604
312-886-3506



U.S. Rep. Mike Bost (R)
Illinois District 12
(which now includes
Effingham County)
352 Cannon House
Office Building
Washington, DC
20515-1315
Phone: 202-225-5661



U.S. Rep. Mary Miller,
R-Oakland
Illinois District 15 (which
now includes Shelby
County)
1529 Longworth House
Office Building
Washington, DC
20515-1315
Phone: 202-225-5271

State government



Gov. J.B. Pritzker (D)
Office of the Governor
207 State House,
Springfield, IL 62706
governor@state.il.us
217-782-0244



State Rep. Adam
Niemerg (R)
102nd House District
107 W. Main St.
Teutopolis, IL 62467
217-813-6036
E-mail: niemerg@
ilhousegop.org



State Rep. Brad
Halbrook (R)
107th House District
203 N. Cedar Street
Shelbyville, IL 62565
(217) 774-1306
Halbrook@ilhousegop.org



State Rep. Blaine Wilhour (R)
110th House District
152 South Church Street
Louisville, IL 62858
618-665-4109
Email: wilhour@ilhousegop.
org



State Sen. Chapin Rose (R)
51st State Senate District
510 S. Staley Road
Suite D
Champaign, IL 61822
(217) 607-1853



State Sen. Steve
McClure (R)
54th State Senate District
229 S. Main St.
Suite B
Jacksonville, IL 62650
(217) 245-7456



State Sen. Jason Plummer,
R-Edwardsville
54th Senate District
309-M Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706
217-782-5755
Email: senator@
senatorjasonplummer.com



**Find your legislative
districts at:
[elections.il.gov/
electionoperations/
districtlocator/
addressfinder.aspx](https://elections.il.gov/electionoperations/districtlocator/addressfinder.aspx)**

Voting Precincts & Polling Places

Precinct Polling Place

West West Town Hall, 3347 E. 300th Ave., Mason

Mound 1 Altamont, Town Hall, 6 W. Adams St., East room

Mound 2 Altamont, Town Hall, 6 W. Adams St., West room

Mound 3 Municipal Building, 202 N. Second St., Altamont

Moccasin Moccasin Town Hall, 16014 N. 245th St. Altamont

Liberty Kluthe Center, 100 Park Street, Beecher City

Mason Mason Civic Center, 861 E. Washington St., Mason

Jackson Jackson Town Hall, N. 8995 E. 900th Ave., Effingham

Summit 1 Pearson Building, 15170 N. Beach Road, Lake Sara

Summit 2 Pearson Building, 15170 N. Beach Road, Lake Sara

Summit 3 Community Building, 9282 East Park Ave., Lake Sara

Summit 4 Community Building, 9282 East Park Ave., Lake Sara

Banner Shumway Kluthe Center, 104 E. Front St., Shumway

Watson 1 Eff. Co. Emergency Services Building, 311 W. Miracle Ave., Effingham

Watson 2 Watson Civic Center, 103 N. Jackson St., Watson

Watson 3 Eff. Co. Emergency Services Building, 311 W. Miracle Ave., Effingham

Union Union Town Hall, 14990 E. 300th Ave., Dieterich

Douglas 1 St. Mary's Parish Hall, Green Creek, 20057 N. 1525th St., Effingham

Douglas 2 New Hope Church, 2210 N. Raney St., Effingham

Douglas 3 St. Anthony High School, 304 E. Roadway Ave., Effingham

Douglas 4 U of I Cooperative Extension Ct., 1209 N. Wenthe St., Effingham

Douglas 5 St. Anthony High School, 304 E. Roadway Ave., Effingham

Douglas 6 St. Anthony High School, 304 E. Roadway Ave., Effingham

Douglas 7 St. Anthony High School, 304 E. Roadway Ave., Effingham

Douglas 8 St. Anthony Hospital Auditorium, 503 N. Maple, Effingham

Douglas 9 St. Anthony Hospital Auditorium, 503 N. Maple, Effingham

Douglas 10 First Baptist Church, 213 W. Fayette Ave., Effingham

Douglas 11 First Baptist Church, 213 W. Fayette Ave., Effingham

Douglas 12 Effingham Park Dist. Ron Diehl Center, 1906 S. Fourth St., Effingham

Douglas 13 Effingham Park Dist. Ron Diehl Center, 1906 S. Fourth St., Effingham

Douglas 14 Effingham Park Dist. Ron Diehl Center, 1906 S. Fourth St., Effingham

Teutopolis 1 Teutopolis Village Hall, 106 W. Main St., Teutopolis

Teutopolis 2 Teutopolis Township Town Hall, 200 S. John St., Teutopolis

Teutopolis 3 American Legion, 106 N. Plum St., Teutopolis

Lucas Lucas Town Hall, 20950 E. 300th Ave., Dieterich

Bishop Kluthe Civic Center, 102 W. Virginia St. (West entrance), Dieterich

St. Francis Montrose Municipal Bldg., 208 W. National Road (Rt. 40), Montrose

All polling places handicapped accessible.

Private Schools

St. Anthony High School
9th thru 12th grade
304 E Roadway Ave.,
Effingham
217-342-6969
stanthony.com
Greg Fearday, Principal



St. Anthony Grade School
Preschool thru 8th grade
405 N. Second
Effingham, IL 62401
217-347-0419
www.stanthony.com
Cody Rincker, Principal

Sacred Heart Grade School
K-8th grade
Kids For Christ Preschool
Ages 3-5
407 S Henrietta
Effingham, IL 62401
217-342-4060
www.sheff.org
Angela Sheehan, Principal

Altamont Lutheran Interparish School
7 S Edwards
Altamont, IL 62411
618-483-6428
Robinette Flach, Administrator

Buckeye Friends School
Pre-K-12
10110 IL-33, Effingham
217-708-5168

Discovery Christian School
K-9
2511 S. Veterans Drive
Effingham
217-347-8982

Montessori Kids Universe
Effingham
2201 Willenborg St. Suite 8
Effingham, 62401
217-559-1880

Colleges

Lake Land College
Kluthe Center of Higher Education & Technology
1204 Network Centre Boulevard
Effingham, IL 62401
217-540-3555
Karen Kull, Director



Schools

Altamont Unit 10
7 S. Ewing St.
Altamont, IL 62411
618-483-6195.

Board of Education

Dale Laue, President
Dane Milleville, Vice President
Chris Guse, Secretary
Derek Michael Bowman
Martin Reyes

*To contact board members: contact-
boe@altamontschools.org*

Administration

Superintendent: Casey Adam
cadam@altamontschools.org

Altamont High School Principal
Peggy Bueker
pbueker@altamontschools.org

Altamont Grade School Principal
Doug Hill
dhill@altamontschools.org

Beecher City Unit 20
438 Hwy 33
Beecher City, IL 62414
Phone: 618-487-5100

Board of Education

Lee Roadarmel, President
David Doty, Vice President
Jordan Shields, Secretary
Darren Doty
Aaron Summers
Ryan Schaefer
Shane Burks

Administration

Superintendent
Philip Lark
plark@beechercity.org

Beecher City Grade School
Principal
Karen Hanfland
khanfland@beechercity.org

Dieterich Unit 30
205 S. Pine St.
Dieterich, IL 62424
217-925-5249

Board of Education

Cory Niebrugge, President
Doug Baxter, Vice President
Charity Bohnhoff, Secretary
Devin Aherin
Thad Goebel
Anita Bierman
Daniel Niemerg

*To contact the school board:
schoolboard@dieterichschools.org*

Administration

Superintendent
Cary Jackson
cjackson@dieterichschools.org

Junior-Senior High School
Principal
Scott Kocher
skocher@dieterichschools.org

Dieterich Elementary School
Principal
Josh Benefiel
jbenefiel@dieterichschools.org

Effingham Unit 40
2803 South Banker St.
Effingham, IL 62401
(217) 540-1500

Board of Education

Jill Wendling, President
Chad Thompson, Vice President
Jane Willenborg, Secretary
Steve Bone
Scott Volpi
Andrew Altman
Desha Wear

*To contact board members:
boardofeducation@unit40.org*

Administration

Superintendent
Andy Johnson

East Side Preschool
215 N First Street
Principal
Jennifer Fox

Early Learning Center
Principal
Jennifer Fox

Central Grade School
Principal
Todd Schuette

South Side School
Principal
Cheri Marten

Effingham Junior High School
Principal
Charlie Schwerman

Effingham High School
Principal
Kurt Roberts

Teutopolis Unit 50
801 W. Main St.
Teutopolis, IL 62467
217-857-3535

Board of Education

Courtney Tegeler, President
Erin Ordner, Vice President
Chandler Hewing, Secretary
Sarah Lin, Treasurer
Paul Hardiek
Adam Hoene
Laura Hemmen
Kari Thompson

*To contact board members:
unit50board@ttown.k12.il.us*

Administration

Superintendent
Matthew Sturgeon
sturgeonm@ttown.k12.il.us

Teutopolis High School Principal
Tanner Lawson

Teutopolis Junior High School
Principal
Pat Drees
dreesp@ttown.k12.il.us

Teutopolis Grade School
Principal
Sherry Hoehn
hoehns@ttown.k12.il.us

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Bonutti Clinic



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1303 West Evergreen Ave., Suite 200
217-342-3400

MATTOON

SBL Orthopedics & Sports Medicine
Prairie Pavillion 2
1004 Health Center Drive, Suite 100
217-238-3435